

# **Suisun Marsh Levee Investigation**

## **Key Points from Public Outreach Efforts To Date**

5/23/00

### **A. Key Points Presented By CALFED Staff at Public Outreach Workshop Regarding Potential CALFED Suisun Marsh Efforts:**

- **Based on Willing Participation**
- **Do Not Want to Create Tidal Wetlands at the Expense of Managed Wetlands**
- **More Intensive Maintenance Must Be Part of Any Package**
- **Do Not Want to Reduce Existing Funding for In-Delta Levees**

### **B. Key Points from Public Outreach Workshop Participants:**

- **There is sensitivity as to how conversion efforts will effect hunting in the Marsh.**
- **There is a concern as to how levee breaches and resulting wetlands will be maintained especially considering the soil composition in the Marsh (peat and other poor structural materials).**
- **There is question as to what the merits for managed wetlands are versus tidal wetlands.**
- **There is a desire to see CALFED target government-owned lands for any conversion efforts first.**
- **There is a desire to make maintenance dredging doable.**
- **There is a concern about localized water quality impacts for the neighbors of parcels that go to tidal wetlands.**
- **Landowners desire assurance that CALFED will deliver on its end of the "package deal."**
- **There is a desire to know how actions might necessitate formation of Reclamation Districts.**
- **Potential participants want to know the minimum acreage requirements to participate in potential conversion activities.**

**C. Key Points/Comments Sent In:**

- **There is a concern that CALFED go slow in adoption of new management techniques because of the uncertainty involved.**
- **There is a desire to establish a “measure of merit” for Marsh Habitat such as tons of protein per acre.**
- **It is suggested that CALFED consider the expected decrease in waterfowl population from conversion actions.**
- **It is suggested that CALFED consider plans for public access and how it may affect landowners.**
- **Participants would like to know how much would CALFED pay for a club or conservation easement.**
- **It is suggested that isolated properties may be more appropriate for conversion.**
- **CALFED needs to consider impacts on neighboring water management facilities (i.e. tidal gate drainage capability) from conversion.**
- **Delta/Southern California water interests need to demonstrate a financial interest in Marsh levees in case there is another catastrophic breach that impacts water quality.**